

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**RECESSED CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2004**

- RECONVENE

**MINUTES:**

PRESENT: MAYOR GOODMAN and COUNCILMEMBERS REESE, BROWN, WEEKLY, and MONCRIEF

EXCUSED: COUNCILWOMAN McDONALD (attending National League of Cities Conference in Washington D.C.) and COUNCILMAN MACK

Also Present: CITY MANAGER DOUG SELBY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER STEVE HOUCHENS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER BETSY FRETWELL, CITY ATTORNEY BRAD JERBIC, and CITY CLERK BARBARA JO RONEMUS

Prior to discussion of the recessed item, MAYOR GOODMAN sadly announced that a truly great man, a wonderful person, a great Las Vegan, and phenomenal Nevadan passed away last night, former GOVERNOR MICHAEL O'CALLAGHAN. He touched many lives and will not be forgotten. MAYOR GOODMAN recounted that as a young lawyer in Las Vegas in 1965 after his parents returned to Philadelphia, he was privileged to meet GOVERNOR O'CALLAGHAN, who became his surrogate father. The Governor was extraordinary and made everyone feel important, despite his own importance. Even when on opposite sides one could never call the Governor wrong. This wonderful person will be truly missed. He was a legend of the time, but never considered himself such.

(9:11 – 9:13)

**AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE****RECESSED CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: MARCH 5, 2004****DEPARTMENT: FINANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES****DIRECTOR: MARK R. VINCENT**☐**CONSENT**☒**DISCUSSION****SUBJECT:**

Discussion and possible action regarding Temporary Approval of Change of Ownership, Business Name, and Key Employee for a Tavern License and a new Nonrestricted Gaming License subject to the provisions of the fire codes, Health Dept. regulations, and confirmation of approval by the Nevada Gaming Commission, From: Horseshoe Club Operating Co., dba Horseshoe Club, Becky L. Behnen, COB, Pres, CEO, Treas, 99.153%, Jack B. Binion, .847%, To: Speakeasy Gaming of Fremont, Inc., dba Binion's Horseshoe Casino and Hotel, 128 Fremont Street, Edson R. Arneault, Dir, Pres, Secy, Treas, Roger M. Szepelak, COO, MTR Gaming Group, Inc., PTC, 100%, Edson R. Arneault, COB, CEO, HHLV Management Company, LLC, Key Employee, Thomas M. Jenkin, Key Employee, Harrah's Operating Company, Inc., Mmbr, 100% - Ward 5 (Weekly)

**Fiscal Impact**☒**No Impact****Amount:**☐**Budget Funds Available****Dept./Division:**☐**Augmentation Required****Funding Source:****PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:**

Discussion and possible action regarding Temporary Approval of Change of Ownership, Business Name, and Key Employee for a Tavern License and Nonrestricted Gaming License

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Recommend approval with authority for the Director or Designee to issue a permanent license upon receipt of a favorable police report

**BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:**

1. Agenda Memo
2. Letter from Jones Vargas

**MOTION:**

**GOODMAN – APPROVED – UNANIMOUS with L.B. McDONALD and MACK excused**

**MINUTES:**

JIM Di FIORE, Manager, Business Services Division, introduced the applicants.

MAYOR GOODMAN explained that he has been in discussions with THOMAS JENKIN, who has been a gentleman and has bent over backwards to see that this process goes as smoothly as possible. He hopes that the relationship between the City and the applicants before us, both Harrah's and the new owners, will be one of excellence to make sure that the City benefits and that the private sector succeeds in the Fremont Street Experience.

## RECESSED CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2004

Item 46 – Discussion and possible action regarding Temporary Approval of Change of Ownership between Horseshoe Club Operating Company dba Horseshoe Club, Becky L. Behnen

**MINUTES – Continued:**

MR. JENKIN stated for the record that Harrah's Entertainment is part of this transaction and has agreed to operate Binion's Horseshoe for a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years. All of the 2004 World Series of Poker activities will be held at Binion's Horseshoe. In 2005, the final two rounds, along with a number of satellite tournaments, will be held at Binion's Horseshoe, regardless of whether the property at that point is being operated by Harrah's Entertainment or MTR Gaming. The final two rounds will be live on ESPN, and during that period of time, the property will carry the Binion's Horseshoe name through the end of the 2005 World Series of Poker.

MAYOR GOODMAN expressed his appreciation to MR. JENKIN. The world will know that Las Vegas has the greatest entertainment, greatest casinos, greatest food, greatest shopping and greatest poker tournaments. MR. JENKIN added that although Harrah's Entertainment will not operate downtown long-term, they care about downtown. One of the reasons that they liked their partnership with MTR is because they believe they will be great tenants and partners of downtown and work very hard to build the business.

COUNCILMAN WEEKLY asked that the new owner consider those employees that were employed at Binion's Horseshoe. MR. JENKIN affirmed that all of the employees will be rehired with the exception of a very small group of 15-18 senior managers, who will come from Harrah's or the Rio. They have already hired 50 people back. They intend to employ 900 people, and letters will go out to all former Horseshoe employees inviting them to come back. It is anticipated that they will fill most of the 900 jobs with former Horseshoe employees.

MR. DiFIORE noted that the temporary approval of the liquor license is pending the investigations on the principals. In his earlier recommendation he asked that the Council grant him or MARK VINCENT, Director, Finance & Business Services, the authority to issue the permanent license upon issuance of a favorable police report. Therefore, he asked if that would still be part of the Mayor's motion. MAYOR GOODMAN replied affirmatively.

(9:06 – 9:11)

**1-81**

MAYOR GOODMAN offered an opportunity for public input, despite Citizen Participation having taken place on March 3, 2004. No one appeared to speak.

(9:11)

**1-237**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:11 A.M.**